



Dear Parent/Carer,

We have thoroughly enjoyed being back together as a school family this academic year. It has been a busy half term and an enjoyable one in so many ways. We are learning to live in our 'new normal' and appreciate your continued support in this; particularly with Covid-19 home testing.

**We know how important it is for you to be able to send your children to school.**

**You should encourage your children to continue testing and [report](#) results twice a week, at home, throughout the October half-term school holiday and take a test before returning to college. All results should be reported, even if your result is negative or void.**

Your children should collect home test kits from their teacher at period 5 on Friday, and bring them home with them. Please check if your child has received enough of these test kits to continue testing over the half term break. You can help them to take the test and report their results. Testing is free of charge. If you do still require more home testing kits to continue testing over half term, you can also order more [online](#) through gov.uk or collect from your local pharmacy.

We are letting you know that the test kits provided by the Government have changed, and you advised to read the instructions carefully before testing. The new Flowflex test kits only require a double nasal swab and the results should be ready after 15 minutes. The test should be discarded if it has been open for more than 30 minutes. Please take some time to read the instructions carefully, as failure to follow them correctly could result in false positive or negative cases being recorded.

By testing your child twice a week over half term, you will help us to reduce transmission of Coronavirus, keep your child in college and St John Bosco Arts College open to minimise disruption to their education and to you and your household.

Please contact Stephen Johnson, our COVID Coordinator, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

### **Year 11 and 13 mock examinations**

Mock examinations begin for students in year 11 and 13 commence after half term. Revision materials will be available on Class Charts. It is important that pupils are well-prepared for these examinations to ensure that we are able to provide appropriate support for their GCSE, A Level and Btec exams, Summer 2022.

### **Safeguarding / E-safety**

**ST JOHN BOSCO ARTS COLLEGE**

Telephone: 0151 330 5142

Email: [enquiries@stjohnbosco.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stjohnbosco.org.uk) [www.stjohnboscoartscollege.com](http://www.stjohnboscoartscollege.com)

Storrington Avenue, Liverpool L11 9DQ

Headteacher: Mr Darren Gidman, BSc [Hons], NPQH





A key focus for us in school is keeping our young people safe. We spend time in the curriculum teaching pupils how they can keep themselves safe in the physical and virtual world. This time of year can be particularly challenging around Halloween and bonfire night. Please take some time to speak to your children about personal safety; everyone has the right to feel safe and know what to do if they feel unsafe. You will find information on our website about recognising and reporting safety concerns around sexual violence and sexual harassment, extremism and radicalization, online safety and criminal exploitation. If students are experiencing emotional difficulties during October half term they can access help through Kooth (online counsellors available to offer support) and Careline contact details can be found on the College website.

### **Mental Health & Well Being**

YPAS will be holding a virtual coffee event Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 10am, if you feel you would benefit from this event, I have included the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82583431532?pwd=bs9VSWFUKy9CWDZpUEhEZzYxczFIUT09>

The team from YPAS will be there to listen to any concerns you may have about your child's mental health and wellbeing and will be able to offer advice and signpost you to support.

### **Behaviour and Standards**

It is with your on-going support that we are able to maintain high standards and positive behaviour in school. Please ensure that children return to school on Monday 1st November in full school uniform. Pupils should not have ANY piercings other than a single set of silver or gold stud earrings in the lobe of the ear if they chose. They are not permitted to wear any other jewellery to school. The school cannot accept responsibility for jewellery brought onto site. Our policies also state that pupils should not have hair dye or adornments to their hair, nor should they have false eyelashes, nail varnish, shellac or acrylics. As pupils now have lockers, all mobile phones should be stored in lockers throughout the school day; they will be confiscated if they are seen by a member of staff (in the event that pupils have not placed phones in lockers) as per the college policy. Please see our college website for policies relating to behaviour and standards.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr D Gidman  
Headteacher

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